whether the Ministry has referred to the draft CAG report and has issued guidelines to the States for initiating corrective measures; and

if so, what is the status of implementing these guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has prepared guidelines for all Centrally sponsored rural development schemes and these have been made available to all the implementing agencies in the States for effective implementation of the schemes.

(b) to (d) CAG has undertaken performance audit of the implementation of NREGA in 68 phase-I districts for the year 2006-07 on a request made by the Ministery. CAG submitted its draft report on 17.12.2007 to the Ministry. There are some findings in the draft report which relate to deviations from the guidelines in some sample cases such as application for employment issue of dated receipts, job card formats, muster rolls, maintenance of record registers and monitoring. The draft report has been examined in the Ministry and has also been shared with all the States. The States have given their responses to the observations made by CAG in the draft report. These have been sent to CAG. State responses are in the process of examination by CAG for finalisation of the performance audit report of NREGA.

People without job cards under NREGS

t1367. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: SHRI
BHAGWATI SINGH: SHRI JANESHWAR
MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that lakhs of poor people still have not got their job cards under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme;

whether it is also a fact that poor people are being provided employment only for 17 days under this scheme;

if so, whether any concrete steps are being taken by Government to implement this scheme fully; and

if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No, Sir. NREGA is a demand driven programme and is not target based. Any local rural household who makes a written or oral application for registration to the Gram Panchayat is to be issued the job card by the Gram Panchayat after verification.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. The aim of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the rural households by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. NREGA is demand based. Under the Act, employment is provided to a wage seeker for the number of days of employment demanded subject to an over all ceiling of 100 days per household in a financial year. The 100 days of employment envisaged under the Act takes into account the fact that workers

tOriginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.

will also avail other employment opportunities such as working on their own fields and the fields of other farmers as well as under other Government programmes. During 2006-07, average number of days of employment provided per household was 43 days and during 2007-08 (upto January-08) this average is 41 days for phase-I districts, 23 days for phase-II districts and the overall average is 36 days. NREGA has now been extended to all the remaining districts of the country with effect from 01.04.2008.

Direction to States to adopt PWD schedule of rates

1368. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether any new guidelines have been issued on NREG scheme;

if so, the details thereof;

whether his Ministry has directed the States to adopt PWD schedule of rates of NREG scheme works;

if so, whether there is any justification in the contention of the State officials that the PWD works cannot be compared with works undertaken under NREG scheme; and

if so, the reaction of the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Operational Guidelines, 2006 had been framed by the Ministry in January 20,2006 and these have been revised on December 2006.

No, Sir. The directives issued in this regard to the States refer to the clarification that Schedule of rates (SORs) of various executing agencies for similar nature of activities and outputs in the same area must be same. States have also been asked to get these SORs notified by the competent authority of the State as SORs would have horizontal application across the departments/agencies.

and (e) Do not arise.

Amount sanctioned under NREGS

1369. DR. BARUN MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

the total amount sanctioned so far under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, with State-wise break-up;

the total amount spent so far by the States under the scheme, with State and year-wise break-up; and

the total number of people who got employment and for how many days each, with State-wise break-up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) State-wise details of the funds released by the Centre, funds utilized by the States out of the total available funds, number of households provided employment and the average numbers of days worked by each household are given in the enclosed Statement.